



BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

U. S. MARINE FORCES PACIFIC

COMMANDER JAMES D. PUTTLER
CHAPLAIN CORPS, UNITED STATES NAVY

Chaplain James D. Puttler reported aboard Marine Forces Pacific, Camp Smith, Hawaii, 14 July 1998 as the Deputy Force Chaplain, Marine Forces Pacific. He served as the Senior Protestant Chaplain at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay prior to this assignment. Chaplain Puttler attended the U.S. Navy's 6-week Chaplain Supervisory Course at NETC, Newport, Rhode Island in the fall of 1997.

Chaplain Puttler graduated from Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, Washington, 1972 and Concordia Theological Seminary, Springfield, Illinois, 1976, earning a Masters of Divinity degree. After serving Calvary Lutheran Church, Sunnyside, Washington from 1976 - 1984, he attended the Basic Chaplains Course, Newport, Rhode Island and was commissioned as a Lieutenant in the United States Navy Chaplain Corps, April 1984. He served initially as Group Chaplain, Marine Air Group 13 in El Toro, California with additional duty with the rapid response element Marine Air Group 70. Subsequent assignments include Chaplain, Naval Training Center, San Diego; Command Chaplain, USS STERETT (CG31), Subic Bay, The Republic of the Philippines; Command Chaplain, United States Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station, Dededo, Guam; and District Chaplain, USCG 14th District, Honolulu, Hawaii. He was selected for graduate level training, attending the 10 month Advanced Chaplains Course, Newport, Rhode Island, and completed his second Masters degree in Human Resource Management at Salve Regina University, May 1994.

He is a member of International Critical Incident Stress Foundation. His decorations include three Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, Coast Guard Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, Navy Expeditionary Medal, Philippines Presidential Unit Citation, the Coast Guard Commandant's Meritorious Team Award and the Department of Transportation Gold Medal Citation.

Chaplain Puttler was born in Alhambra, California and grew up in Southern California. He is married to the former Linda Gray of Seattle, Washington. They have two daughters, Krista and Mai-Britt.